275

REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Withdrawal of penalty on private trees destroyed by overtapping.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. Mis. C. 23-22, dated 7th March 1923, from the Excise Commissioner regarding the amendment of para XV of the Toddy Rules with a view to withdraw the penalty now imposed for the destruction by over-tapping of palm trees tapped for toddy, belonging to private individuals.

ORDER No. FL. 5404-14—Ex. 20-22-7, DATED 30TH MAY 1923.

Representations have been made from time to time in the Representative Assembly regarding the hardship caused by the levy of fines for over-tapping private trees. The revenue realized by Government by the levy is estimated at Rs. 2,500 per annum. As however Government is entitled only to one-half of the penalty levied in such cases (*vide* Government Order No. Fl. 1576-85, dated 29th September 1902), the actual loss of revenue to Government by the grant of the concession asked for is Rs. 1,250 per annum. With a view to remove the hardship complained of, Government are pleased to approve of the proposal to withdraw the rule authorizing the levy of a penalty on private trees destroyed by over-tapping, although the concession involves some loss of revenue to Government. The owners of such private trees will be at liberty to sue the toddy contractor concerned for damages, if any, caused to them by the over-tapping of such trees. A notification amending the Toddy Rules and the Rules regulating Excise Sales will accordingly be issued.

T. E. JEYARAMA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

Fees payable under the Mysore Companies Regulation to be paid to Treasury.

READ—

— Letter No. 580, dated 6th November 1922, from the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies in Mysore, requesting that Rule 12 of the Rules under the Mysore Companies Regulation be modified so that the fees paid on account of the various processes under the Regulation which are now received in his office in cash may, in future, be paid into a Government Treasury and receipts forwarded to him, instead.

ORDER No. I. C. 7283-5—I. & C. 146-22-3, DATED 29TH MAY 1923.

Government are pleased to approve of the recommendation of the Registrar. Rule 12 of the Rules under the Mysore Companies Regulation, VIII of 1917, will accordingly be modified as follows :—

All fees payable to the Registrar under the Regulation shall be paid either in cash to a Government Treasury or by Mysore Court-fee Stamps.

2. The draft of notice to the Managing Agents, Directors, Managers, etc., of Companies proposed to be issued in this matter by the Registrar received from him with the letter read above is also approved.

T. E. JEYARAMA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

Season and Crop Report.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. C. Per. A. 115, dated the 17th March 1923, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding the Season and Crop Report for 1921-22 together with his review thereon.

2. Letter No. R. O. C. 1733—H. C. 613-5, dated 3rd March 1923, from the Director of Agriculture in Mysore communicating his remarks on the Season and Crop Report for 1921-22.

ORDER No. I. C. 7158-218—Stcs. 41-22-5, DATED 25TH MAY 1923.

Recorded with the observation that the delay of over three months in the submission of the report should have been avoided.

2. The early rains were seasonal and well distributed. The rainfall during the months of July and August was followed by a long break which caused some anxiety, but the heavy showers in October and November considerably eased the situation.

3. Some salient statistics for the past five years are given in the accompanying statement. From these, it will be noticed that there has been a gradual reduction in the area of assessed lands available for cultivation from 768,287 acres in 1917-18 to 748,413 in 1921-22. Corresponding to this, a steady rise in the area under occupancy from 7,802,121 in 1917-18 to 7,844,021 in 1921-22 is noticeable, except in the year 1919-20, when there was a slight decrease in this area. The figures disclose that the demand for land has been steady in all the districts, except in the Mysore and Shimoga Districts, where the extent of lands relinquished is larger than the extent newly taken up. The area under current fallows in all the districts which showed a gradual increase from 1,342,979 acres in 1917-18 to 1,906,631 acres in 1920-21 fell down to 1,789,411 during the year under review.

4. The expansion or contraction in the area under cultivation of some of the principal crops during the past five years was as noted below:—

Crops	1921-22	1920-21	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18
Rice	714,720	676,685	761,807	634,456	818,347
Ragi	2,203,124	2,164,740	2,303,407	1,966,411	2,317,396
Cholam	678,121	620,369	675,293	661,616	608,001
Sugar-cane	32,345	29,638	34,057	40,143	44,328
Cotton	56,669	109,946	147,280	125,125	155,657
Horse gram	714,793	771,271	815,792	883,197	734,349

The marked fall in the area under cotton from 155,657 acres in 1917-18 to 56,669 acres during the year under review is reported to be due to the unfavourable seasonal conditions and the fall in prices.

5. As regards the estimated outturn of certain selected crops, Government note that the Revenue Commissioner has, in consultation with the Director of Agriculture, already taken the necessary steps for revising the standard rates fixed in Government Order No. R. 3238-49—Agri. 61-15-7, dated 28th August 1918.

6. The following two tables give the statistics relating to the export and import trade in food grains of the State and the fluctuations in the average retail prices of three of the staple food grains during the past five years:—

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (IN LAKHS).

Description	1921-22	1920-21	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18
Exports	411	408	408	384	298
Imports	317	331	354	320	194

PRICES OF THREE OF THE STAPLE FOOD GRAINS IN THE STATE (IN TERMS OF SEERS PER RUPEE).

Articles	1921-22	1920-21	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18
Rice	4·75	4·70	4·31	4·36	6·32
Ragi	9·00	9·23	7·70	8·42	14·86
Cholam	7·71	7·70	6·78	5·85	12·20

From the above table, it is seen that the retail prices of rice, ragi and cholam continue to remain high, in sympathy with the wholesale market. There has been a steady rise in the value of exports due mainly to the exports of grains, pulses and oil-seeds. The bulk of the imports consists of cocoanut, coffee, rice, wheat, castor and refined sugar.

7. The Government observe that the statement showing the number of holdings (Table VII A) contains several discrepancies. The number of holdings in the Mysore District not exceeding one acre in extent was for instance, reported to be 49,082 in the year 1920-21 whereas for the year under report, the number of holdings is given as only 18,376. This abnormal fall has been explained by the Revenue Commissioner to be due to incorrect reporting by certain taluk officers. Much of the value of these statistics is lost by such incorrect and misleading figures. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to impress upon all taluk and district officers the importance of these statistics and issue necessary instructions with a view to preventing the recurrence of such errors in future.

T. E. JEYARAMA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

Statement showing statistics under certain heads from 1917-18 to 1921-22.

Description		Bangalore	Kolar	Tumkur	Mysore	Hassan	Shimoga	Kadur	Chita	State
	Population	906,935	792,339	778,122	1,403,819	583,960	492,560	833,588	574,179	5869,952
Area of assessed land available for cultivation.	1917-18	48,215	130,705	152,660	73,445	79,699	115,872	72,877	94,804	768,287
	1918-19	51,223	136,822	150,087	73,491	76,603	116,064	69,966	91,844	766,040
	1919-20	55,241	124,027	145,213	74,866	74,045	121,167	70,397	93,927	758,883
	1920-21	52,375	123,278	139,682	76,910	65,266	127,467	68,037	93,812	747,017
	1921-22	47,193	133,645	130,457	76,915	70,053	126,866	67,073	96,209	748,413
Area taken up during the year.	1917-18	3,266	5,499	9,407	3,466	5,194	3,587	5,246	12,828	48,493
	1918-19	2,745	3,678	5,006	1,851	2,723	3,388	3,523	4,670	27,579
	1919-20	2,059	3,002	7,296	2,313	3,696	3,934	3,104	4,405	29,808
	1920-21	9,070	4,902	7,515	2,332	3,733	4,012	3,329	4,214	39,107
	1921-22	3,221	6,191	6,836	2,733	3,319	6,462	3,190	2,919	34,371
Total ...		20,360	23,267	35,560	12,695	18,665	21,383	18,392	26,036	179,358
Area resigned during the year.	1917-18	435	2,516	2,371	6,142	202	2,625	695	1,266	16,252
	1918-19	274	2,796	1,840	1,703	292	2,150	329	1,042	10,426
	1919-20	779	3,979	5,759	2,040	875	7,925	2,232	5,943	29,532
	1920-21	762	1,079	2,855	2,040	1,056	3,823	1,067	2,726	14,908
	1921-22	274	1,595	3,883	1,940	966	6,750	1,375	3,893	20,676
Total ...		2,524	11,965	16,708	13,865	8,391	22,773	5,698	14,870	91,794
Current fallows ...	1917-18	99,505	116,647	289,963	120,953	147,914	188,148	112,335	272,514	1,342,979
	1918-19	128,385	223,845	418,705	145,253	177,737	259,164	149,007	428,851	1,930,897
	1919-20	122,932	154,054	842,581	152,084	181,128	214,603	135,838	359,548	1,662,713
	1920-21	188,711	223,427	426,131	156,187	192,517	203,004	184,055	432,599	1,906,631
	1921-22	122,011	164,786	383,000	152,163	193,461	198,438	192,644	450,958	1,789,411
Area under occupation ...	1917-18	807,197	661,150	1254,083	1492,744	806,774	760,514	538,414	1491,215	7,802,121
	1918-19	823,513	666,608	1256,673	1482,749	808,265	760,478	546,073	1495,466	7,839,810
	1919-20	815,427	678,523	1265,806	1480,997	810,010	770,944	540,494	1491,514	7,861,120
	1920-21	824,867	680,170	1262,874	1478,953	818,299	754,049	554,691	1490,826	7,858,729
	1921-22	830,567	664,761	1265,843	1479,381	814,268	750,065	549,235	1489,851	7,844,021

150